

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Oath/Declaration:

After discussing the issue of the oath or declaration being defective with Examiner Marjorie Christian, the Examiner agreed to withdraw this issue in a later office action or notice of allowance as the original oath or declaration filed in the currently pending application was found to in fact not be defective.

Information Disclosure Statement:

The Examiner claims that the information disclosure statement filed on August 8, 2006 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), for failure to include a legible copy of EP 828553. Applicant respectfully disagrees. It should be noted that WO 96/37282 takes the place of EP 828553 as indicated by the European Patent Office. A copy of WO 96/37282 (38 pages) was filed on August 8, 2006 along with the information disclosure statement. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to certify that the information disclosure statement filed on August 8, 2006 does comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign patents EP 828553, EP 0168783, and JP 04094727 is included with this response to be place in the application file, as requested by the Examiner.

EP0828553: Relates to integrated, asymmetrical, synthetic membranes for separation and filtration of polymers, which are soluble in ϵ -caprolactam, a method for producing the same, as well as the use of these membranes.

EP0168783: Relates to asymmetrical microporous fibers for the treatment of blood made up of a first polymer which is hydrophobic and a second polymer which is hydrophilic.

JP04094727: Relates to hydrophilic resin/aromatic polysulfone semipermeable membranes which have excellent water permeability and a method of making the same.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests
an early Notice of Allowance in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Blake E. Vande Garde
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 58,264

Customer No. 29494
Hammer & Associates, P.C.
3125 Springbank Lane
Suite G
Charlotte, NC 28226
Telephone: 704-927-0400
Facsimile: 704-927-0485
H:\2037\008\SuppAmendment102908.doc